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The Sacramento Star

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Volume 1, Number 25 | *Published Alternate Wednesdays for the Women and Men of the Gay and Lesbian Community* | May 4, 1983

Agnos Slates AB 1 Seminar May 21 At State Capitol

Assemblyman Art Agnos has announced an all-day seminar on Saturday, May 21, for supporters of AB1, the lesbian and gay employment rights bill.

In a letter dated April 19 and sent to AB1 supporters, Agnos wrote, "The campaign for AB1 is under way.

"On Wednesday, March 23, the Assembly Ways and Means Committee approved AB1 by a vote of 12 to 8. The full Assembly will vote for the first time on this issue in mid-June.

"AB1 will not succeed without your help. Only a massive campaign, one that involves the entire gay and lesbian community and all of its friends, will secure the passage of AB1.

"I am sponsoring a one-day seminar for supporters of AB1 on Saturday, May 21, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Room 4202 of the State Capitol in Sacramento. I hope that you will be able to attend this important program of workshops designed to build a coordinated and effective statewide campaign for AB1.

"I also hope that you will take the time today to write again to your representatives in the Legislature.

"As seating [for the seminar] is limited, I must request that you register in advance by mail. There is no charge for the seminar.

"We are very close to a major victory for human rights. Every supporter of human rights in California has an important role to play in achieving that victory."

To register for the seminar, send the following information to Assemblyman Agnos' office by May 16: your name, address, day and evening telephone numbers, and organizational affiliation, if any. Please type or print clearly.

The address for registration is Assemblyman Art Agnos, 1064 State Building, 350 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

For more information, call (415) 557-2253.

For information on housing in Sacramento, call Richard La Voie, Office of Sen. David Roberti, (916) 445-8390.★

Cranston Courts Gay Voters In DC's Gertrude Stein Demo Club

Sen. Alan Cranston has asked for the support of the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club in his race for the Democratic presidential nomination, according to The Associated Press. The club is the largest gay rights group in Washington, D.C. It has about 1,200 members.

At a fundraising dinner April 19, Cranston declared himself the only presidential aspirant with a "clear-cut and positive record," citing his longstanding support for equal rights legislation in Congress. He said he was the "first and only" senator to employ an "openly gay" person on his staff.

He said he had reintroduced a bill to revise immigration laws that bar aliens who are homosexuals from entering the country.

A spokesperson said that the organization had asked other Democratic presidential candidates to appear before it, but did not expect to make an endorsement.★

Senator Alan Cranston

Legislature Urges Congress To Pass New ERA, 'Bring Us Out Of The Dark Ages'

The State Legislature has passed a resolution urging Congress to pass a new Equal Rights Amendment, The Associated Press reported.

The state Senate, on a 29-5 vote April 21, approved a resolution asking for passage of another ERA. The Assembly had approved the measure, AJR1 by Assemblyman Tom Bane, D-Tarzana, in March.

The original ERA, which would have prohibited discrimination based on sex, was ratified by 35 states, including California, before it expired last year. Approval was needed from 38 to place it in the Constitution.

Supporters said a new amendment would assure women the same rights as men, but critics said it could threaten laws designed to protect women.

"It's so simple and so vague. It leaves specifics up to the federal courts," said Sen. John Doolittle, R-Citrus Heights.

He said courts in states that have ERAs had issued "bizarre rulings," including decisions that said a father did not have to provide child support and a husband did not have to pay his wife's medical bills.

But the Senate rejected a Doolittle amendment that asked for an ERA that would exempt women from the draft, protect other exemptions for women and require fathers to pay child support.

Critics said Doolittle's amendment might limit the ERA's application and ridiculed the idea that passage of an Equal Rights Amendment could harm women.

Sen. Barry Keene, D-Elk, argued that the ERA would not prevent states from making "rational distinctions" to protect women.

Sen. Ed Davis, R-Chatsworth, called the Bane resolution "a silly waste of time," but suggested that Congress reword the ERA to drop the word "sex."

"That's been interpreted by many groups to allow homosexual marriages," he said. Davis, formerly Los Angeles Chief of Police, did not vote.

Sen. Ollie Speraw, R-Long Beach, questioned the need for an ERA, saying other provisions of the Constitution protected women's rights. Speraw worked with Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum last year to force radical changes in the Women's Studies department at Cal State University, Long Beach.

But Sen. Dan Boatwright, the resolution's floor manager, said courts had not interpreted the Constitution's equal protection clause to bar sexual discrimination.

"There are still laws on the books, mostly in the South, preventing women from holding certain jobs," the Concord Democrat said.

"Vote aye. Tell Congress to bring us out of the Dark Ages," he added.★

Statewide Petition Drive Is Begun To Keep Dan White From Being Paroled

A statewide petition drive aimed at revoking the parole of Dan White, the assassin of Harvey Milk and George Moscone, was announced in San Francisco on April 21.

Scott Smith, Milk's former lover and executor of his estate, Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver, and the Rev. James Sandmire of Metropolitan Community Church are behind the drive to keep White in prison for the full seven years and eight months to which he was sentenced. White is scheduled to be paroled January 6, 1984, after serving only five years and two months.

The petition, which has no legal force, call for Governor George Deukmejian to revoke White's parole as soon as it is granted.

The intent of the petition is to show that there is a "public outcry" against White's release. It calls upon Deukmejian to apply the penal code section that he recently used to stop the release of murderer-rapist William Archie Fain.

The state attorney general's office has said that a preliminary review of the case shows that White's parole cannot be blocked because he received a determinate sentence and Fain did not. However, the attorney for the Milk estate, John Wahl, disputes this opinion.

Wahl and other attorneys for Milk's estate have also recently asked federal officials to prosecute White for denying the civil rights of Moscone and Milk, and have asked Deukmejian to deny White's parole. The petition is intended to add strength to these efforts.★

Sen. Lockyer Introduces Bill To Equalize Insurance Rates For Men And Women

State Senator Bill Lockyer, D-San Leandro, introduced legislation April 27 to outlaw sex discrimination in insurance rates.

His bill is similar to a law passed recently in Montana and to bills introduced in Congress by both Democrats and Republicans with Reagan administration support.

Lockyer's bill will be heard soon in the Senate Insurance, Claims, and Corporations Committee. Senate President Pro Tem David Roberti, D-Hollywood, said he expects the bill to receive bi-partisan support.

While many women pay less than men for automobile insurance, they pay more for medical, disability, and life insurance, and related pension plans. On the average, a woman pays $15,732 during her lifetime for insurance than a man does.

Insurance companies oppose the bill, saying it would be unfair to pay women the same annuities as men because women live to collect longer.

The National Organization for Women and other groups and individuals support Lockyer's bill.★

OPINION

Guest Opinion

Older Men: They Only Want (Need) Love Too

By MATTHEW

The society of the male homosexual is an all-encompassing one. It has all the needs and wants that most are looking for. And some that we are not looking for.

We all need love. Companionship. We need to belong. We need love. Hugging. Touching. Giving of ourselves to others. These are some of the basics of life. Without them, many of us are made to feel unwanted. Un-loved. alone.

We who have chosen to live the alternative lifestyle, either by choice or necessity, adapt to many different situations.

And yet, there are those among our peers who enjoy making it difficult for a segment within the homosexual society. The group who are made to suffer are the older male homosexuals, at the expense of the younger alternative lifestyle activists.

WE ONLY WANT (NEED) LOVE, TOO!!!

If the younger homosexual activists could only feel the hurt they commit upon an older male, when they reject an act of love, an act of companionship, an act of wanting to belong, they would not persist in committing such a painful deed.

We all will grow old. That's an inevitability. And unless we change our lifestyle to that of an hetersexual, we shall always have the need for sameness of companionships. It doesn't change just because of age. In fact, it may increase its emotional pitch. The need for companionship is universal. Forever.

WE ONLY WANT (NEED) LOVE,TOO!!!!

Our lifestyle (homosexual) can be a beautiful one, too! And there are those among our society who have endured such beautiful — meaningful — relationships with partners for many years. We know the joy that goes with good partnership with one another.

It means happiness. It means excitement. It means togetherness. Sharing all the various aspects of life. The good and the bad. It means — for many — looking toward the future and seeing a colorful rainbow, with its pot of contentment at the end.

WE ONLY WANT (NEED) LOVE, TOO!!!!

In other words, it means the fulfillment of many needs.

The younger male living an alternative lifestyle (homosexual) can be unknowingly cruel to his older male counterpart. It's the way society teaches us. Everything is beautiful and sought after, as long as it is young. Society teaches us to turn our backs on the one thing that we cannot escape. Aging.

But we must face it. And face it with an open and loving heart. Because if we continue to live, we, too, will, someday be in that inescapable time when we shall be considered old by our younger peers.

Then the hurt will come to you, too!!!!

Then the feelings of frustration will encompass your being, as you make it encompass the older male homosexual today. Sometimes, the pain is unbearable. Tormenting. Awesome.

We all know what we are looking for in this very traumatic lifestyle. It only seems so hard to find it. We are always searching for "Mr. Goodbar." And the search leads us to many different places.

Sometimes, we may go to a private party. The search goes on. Sometimes we may go to a club meeting. The search goes on. Sometimes, we may go to a bath house. The search goes on. And on. And on. The appetite of the average male homosexual is insatiable. But when we find a true, meaningful relationship, everything is beautiful. No one gets hurt.

Let's try and give the older male homosexual a lot more consideration, when he approaches you. He only wants to relate in a manner that has been his lifestyle for a few years longer than yours. His needs are still there. His wants are still there.

HE ONLY WANTS (NEEDS) LOVE, TOO!!!! *

Wrong AIDS Phone; They Refer Calls

Editor:

AIDS, Incorporated (American International Data Search) is a newly formed Sacramento business which performs research for attorneys, business people, physicians and healthcare professionals using over 400 computerized databases. By the end of the year, we will have offices in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

We have been receiving phone calls intended for the AIDS/KS Hotline recently started by the Sacramento chapter of Kaposi's Sarcoma Foundation. The source of the confusion is obvious: AIDS the business shares initials with AIDS the epidemic. Additionally, we're the only AIDS listed in the phone book. Because of these two factors *and because the entire community is threatened by this frightening health problem*, AIDS, Inc., is referring all calls meant for the AIDS/KS Hotline to the right number.

AIDS, Inc., recognizes that Kaposi's Sarcoma is a grave danger to all. We hope that this letter clarifies who we are and reduces any confusion for potential callers to the AIDS/KS Hotline.

Best Regards,
SUSAN STEINSAPIR
Information Consultant

Editor's note: To reach the Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation call 448-AIDS.

Maypole Nixed; Sorry, We'll Try Again In June

Our Maypole didn't make it.

We apologize to any of our readers and friends who showed up on Sunday afternoon May 1 in McKinley Park and didn't find our announced May Day celebration.

Owing to the uncertainty of the weather, the soggy state of the ground, and the not-so-subtle suggestions of the City Parks and Recreation Department, we decided on Saturday to cancel the celebration.

Having no way to notify most of you, Mother Krona and I went to the park for two and a half hours Sunday afternoon to inform anyone who arrived that the celebration had been cancelled.

As it turned out, it was a beautiful afternoon, and we enjoyed the sun, the flowers, and those few hardy souls who came by.

We also decided to plan another celebration of The Star's first birthday and of the wonders of Mother Earth. Look for information soon about our Summer Solstice Celebration. *

James K. Graham, Editor

Call The STAR at 452-1476

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

BERNIE

ALAN, EVERY TIME I VISIT THE ZOO I FEEL SO GUILTY SEEING THESE POOR ANIMALS IMPRISONED IN CAGES!
STONEWALL FEATURES SYNDICATE
7
WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO SEE THEM FREE AND UNRESTRICTED LIKE THEY WERE MEANT TO BE?!
BERNIE, THEY HAVE TO KEEP THE ANIMALS CONFINED... FOR OUR PROTECTION!
HUH... AND ALL THIS TIME I THOUGHT IT WAS FOR OUR PROTECTION!
Dave Young © 1983

AIDS:
IMPLICATIONS FOR LIFESTYLES

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PROFILE

Parents & Friends Of Lesbians & Gays

Mother Helps Give Parents A Place To Go

By GERRY WORTMAN

"When we discovered that our son is gay, we were very surprised, and not too comfortable with the idea. We also discovered that we had no place to go, and so, when we were more comfortable, with our son's permission, we started the group."

Muriel Follansbee, one of the co-founders of Sacramento's Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, was happy to talk to The Star when we called for an interview. She promptly brought her husband, Merrill, into the discussion.

"Well, we have 50 or 55 people at our meetings, and a mailing list of about 120. There is a nucleus that has been with us since the beginning, but our group isn't the kind you join forever. Most people come for three or four months and then disappear. Hopefully, they have the information or the support they need by then."

PFLAG is about a year old in Sacramento, and sponsors a smorgasbord of programs. The first, and still one of the biggest, is the meeting held the first Tuesday of each month at Carmichael Prebyterian Church.

May's meeting saw the videotape of the group's recent appearance on **Finnerty & Company** and Boyce Hinman led a discussion. Earlier programs have included AIDS, legal problems and solutions, and coming out to parents.

On third Tuesdays, the group adjourns to Freemont Presbyterian for informal rap sessions.

Parents contact the group in a number of ways. Both the local chapter and the one in Los Angeles publish pamphlets. "About Our Children" is available for the price of a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope mailed to Parents FLAG, Box 24565, Los Angeles, CA 90024. The local pamphlet can be obtained by calling the Follansbees at 428-4348.

The Follansbees also do some counseling themselves. "We receive three or four calls each week. Merrill, of course, is an ordained Presbyterian minister, and we can usually answer their questions. We usually send them some literature (it arrived in my mailbox shortly after our conversation), and we can invite them to one of the groups, or refer them to another parent who is facing similar problems."

Several chapters of PFLAG also maintain full-scale Parent Hotlines. The nearest is in Chico, at (916) 342-3181, and is maintained by Dr. Harlan Adams, the Northwest area director.

The conversation shifted to political topics. The Rev. Follansbee has appeared repeatedly before legislative committees in support of AB1, and has been effective in lining up support from other mainline denominations. That type of support is widely reported as decisive in passing Wisconsin's anti-discrimination statute, the only such statewide legislation.

"We should say that we're not a church organization. There is a group like that in the denomination—Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns—and our congregations have been generally very supportive, but the only actual connections are the fact that they provide meeting places, and we share some members."

The International Federation of PFLAG was founded a year ago in Los Angeles, although the Follansbees are quick to note that autonomous groups actually started forming ten years or more ago. The Federation's next convention is scheduled for New York City, October 7 through 10. About 100 groups have affiliated with it, including chapters in Holland and Great Britain.★

The members of the Sacramento Lesbian Photographers Alliance, from left to right, are Remy Ceci, Diana Netherland, JoEllen Arnold, Julia Richardson, and Pat Gargaetas.

Photo Special to The Star

Sacramento Lesbian Photographers Alliance Sets Spring Salon May 15

By SANDRA LEE

The Sacramento Lesbian Photographers' Alliance is presenting a Spring Salon on Sunday, May 15. Salon hours will be 3 to 7 p.m. at 1825 Beverly Way in Old Land Park.

This location, a private home made available to the Alliance for the Salon, is three blocks south of Broadway, west off Freeport Boulevard.

Light refreshments will be served throughout the show, and madrigals, two pianos, and possibly a recorder will provide entertainment.

An auction is scheduled for 5 p.m., although items will be for sale during the entire show. A one dollar donation at the door will be requested, to help defray expenses.

The Alliance started about one year ago, when Remy Ceci, JoEllen Arnold, Julia Richardson, Pat Gargaetas, and Diana Netherland met at a workshop and decided to form a support group to share ideas and get feedback.

The concept of a one-day Salon came about when the Alliance decided that they would like a social event to display their artwork and to provide themselves with the motivation to create new pieces of art. With no time or money to commit to a month-long show, a one-day Salon was the answer.

Although they would like to sell their artwork, individual members of the Sacramento Lesbian Photographers' Alliance are willing to barter pieces for goods or services.

AS I SEE IT

I'm Not Sure That's Funny

By RICK RUMAN

My friend Tommy moved from Sacramento to San Francisco about a year ago, partly to take advantage of an offer of a better job and partly, as he put it, "to be where the action is."

"It'll be like living in Disneyland," he told me then, a look of rapture on his face. "All those men."

Tommy moved into a restored Victorian on Noe Street, just a few blocks off Castro, with three other men. He had a small room upstairs where he installed his few possessions: a bed, a television, and a stereo. One of the men didn't need to work to make living and so divided his time between the bars and the baths. His wealthy grandmother sent him monthly checks which he spent on expensive stereo equipment, disco records (which he played until 3 or 4 in the morning every night he was home), drugs, pornography, and antibiotics.

When Tommy and I first discussed this sort of behavior, he told me he thought it was at worst innocuous and that it even seemed rather appealing to him at times. Six months later he told me, "I just have to get away from this whole Castro scene."

Last week I helped Tommy move into a new apartment on Pacific Avenue. "It's on the edge of Chinatown," he said. "I'll probably wake up smelling fried noodles every morning."

Tommy is very attractive, handsome not cute, and well dressed. I have always admired him for that. He will have nothing but the best where his personal appearance is concerned: $60 dollar haircuts, clothes from Neiman Marcus and Wilkes Bashford. People come up to him and strike up conversations.

Saturday night at the I Beam, Tommy had enough Long Island Ice Tea to make him maudlin. While we danced he looked at me blankly. "Try to look like you're enjoying this," I said. He flashed a grin, then his face dropped. He took hold of my hands and we stopped dancing. He put his lips close to my ear and shouted above the music, "Do you know the only thing I have on that's paid for is my underwear?"

Sunday morning the weather was beautiful, so we walked to Carlene's on Polk Street for breakfast. We passed an attractive man wearing Levis and lipstick-red Italian leather shoes. I watched him as he walked by. Tommy didn't give him a second look. "People on Polk are a lot like the people on Castro, but at least they have a *little* imagination here," Tommy said.

Later I drove Tommy downtown to the office where he works so he could finish up a project which had to be done by Monday morning.

"Sometimes I think about moving back to Sacramento," he said as he was getting out of the car. "I meet men here I really like, but they seem to think I don't like them if I don't have sex with them right away."

We both laughed and he waved good-bye from the curb.

But I'm not sure that was funny.★

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Couple Isn't Waiting For The World To Be Ready

By JAMES K. GRAHAM

Allen Chamberlin and Joe Shields are not visibly weighted down by the gravity of their lawsuit against Frontier Airlines or by the burden of having had to make their personal life public. And, they say, they are confident of success in winning the suit, which alleges that Frontier discriminates in granting benefits against employees who are not heterosexually married.

We had dinner together the other night, not long after the April 19 press conference at which Allen and his attorney, Carolyn Langenkamp, announced the lawsuit. We talked with Joe and Allen about the suit, the decisions that led up to it, and its effects so far on their life.

As usual, Allen did most of the talking, his animation and enthusiasm balanced by Joe's quieter comments and observations from time to time.

Since the press conference, neither one has encountered overt negative responses from co-workers.

Allen told of having dinner with fellow crew members in North Platte, Nebraska, when the captain asked another flight attendant, "What about this guy who's suing the airline?"

"She pointed me out. How was he to know which of the four Allens it was?" Allen said. "And I just told them I was trying to give Frontier some publicity, since they don't advertise much. The captain and the whole crew were very supportive."

Joe, who works at the UC Davis Medical Center, said he's received only positive reactions, even though he has discovered that "I wasn't out at work as much as I thought I was. People just don't notice what they don't want to know."

Both said that they also have sources behind the scenes—friends and acquaintances—to keep them posted on what others are saying.

According to Joe, "nobody's saying a word about it."

Allen was pleased to hear that the suit had made page two of the Denver newspapers. "That's where it counts," he said, "because that's where Frontier's headquarters is. They don't care what goes on in Sacramento, if nobody in Denver hears about it." He was also interested to hear that one of the airline's executives had said that he didn't "think the world was ready for this."

"The world is never ready for change," Allen commented. "But ready or not, here we come."

"The 80's are going to be the time when a lot of changes occur, I think," Joe said. "We'll be using cases like this to build on the foundation built earlier by activists and protesters in the 60's and 70's."

Their lawsuit is in fact building on a foundation started even before Allen went to work for Frontier several years ago. "This same issue of getting benefits for your same-sex spouse was first raised by a woman flight attendant five or six years ago," Allen said. "She told them 'I'm married to this woman in this church'—she was very involved in MCC—and they told her in effect 'No you're not.'

"But her involvement in the church led her to go into the ministry, and since she wasn't working for the airline anymore, she didn't pursue the issue. She never brought it to the point of a lawsuit."

That wasn't the approach Allen took at first, either, in his attempt to get spousal benefits for Joe, even to the extent of being legally married in Denver. "There was no law in Colorado prohibiting same-sex marriage, and if there is one now, it couldn't be applied **ex post facto,"** he said.

We worked with them for a long time, in a Christian, gentlemanly fashion," Allen said. "Then, it became obvious that gentlemanly wasn't going to work."

He discussed the possibility of a lawsuit with Lagenkamp, who feels, he said, that they have a good chance of winning. "I told her that I didn't have money to pour down a hole."

The case is based on what Allen calls "excellent documentation. We have everything in writing." It alleges discrimination on the basis of marital status (since the airline claims that Joe and Allen are not married), invasion of privacy ("How would they know the nature of our relationship if they didn't invade our privacy?"), and other fine points of law.

The decision to go ahead with the lawsuit was a mutual one. Joe discussed the case with the attorney regarding its impact on him. He and Allen seem to feel that it is something that they almost inevitably had to do.

Meanwhile, friends are kidding them about being celebrities, but their phone isn't ringing off the hook and the news media aren't watching their every move. "The Advocate did call Carolyn to tell her they liked our press release," Allen said.

Because of Allen's flying schedule, he and Joe value their time together at home. "I get real domestic," he says, "baking bread and all that." That, you suspect, is their strength and will ultimately be their success—one model of what being a family is all about in modern American society.★

La Semilla Offers Variety: Music, Guerrilla Theatre, And Ladies Against Women

A concert of traditional and original music, a Mexican guerrilla theatre group, and "Ladies Against Women" are all scheduled for the first two weeks of May at La Semilla Cultural Center, 312 20th Street.

Singer-songwriters Laurie Brown and Rob McIntosh from Eugene, Oregon, will perform a variety of original and traditional songs on Friday, May 6, at 8 p.m. Admission is $4.

Brown and McIntosh play a combination of instruments, including guitar, banjo, dulcimer, and 12-string guitar. They are known for their interesting harmonies and vocal blend. Their lyrics are relevant and timely, drawn from personal experiences, social awareness, humor, and sensitivity.

Their album, "A Touch of Sanity," will be on sale at the concert. It is a collection of their finest songs and arrangements.

Grupo Zero, one of Mexico's original guerrilla theatre troupes, will present "La Cita" ("The Appointment") on Monday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is $4. *This one-act work of continuous* movement incorporating improvisation and theatrical "tricks" was written and directed collectively by Los Enanos del Tapanco (The Dwarves of Tapanco). It deals with the search for self-identity in the midst of values and morals imposed by society.

"An Evening of Consciousness Lowering with Ladies Against Women" is a hit show by the Plutonium Players from the Bay Area. It returns to Sacramento on Friday, May 13, at 8 p.m. Tickets are $4.

The Plutonium Players are a comic group specializing in spoofing the absurdities of modern-day politics. The cast of "Ladies Against Women" includes Phyllis Shaftly, Virginia Cholesterol, the Rev. Jerry Fallout, and Mrs. T. "Bill" Banks.

La Semilla Cultural Center, "dedicated to the growth of unity in Sacramento's progressive community, to the struggle to end oppression, and to the celebration of working peoples' culture," is located on 20th Street in downtown Sacramento between C and D Streets. Call 443-5001 for more information.★

Growing Stanislaus County Groups Hold AB 1 Forum, Plan Summer Events

By JAMES K. GRAHAM

More than 35 men and women from the Stanislaus County lesbian and gay community turned out in a heavy rainstorm on the night of April 27 to attend an AB1 Forum in Modesto.

Sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church of Modesto and the Stanislaus Gay Alliance, the forum featured Eric Shockman and Cleve Jones from the office of Assemblyman Art Agnos and Lisa Katz and Richard La Voie from the Sacramento AB1 Committee.

In addition to presentations on the purpose of the bill and on generating support for it in the Legislature, the organizers showed videotapes of the hearings on the bill and answered questions from the audience.

Agnos aide Eric Shockman advised those present that their letters and opinions do count. "Every Monday morning," he said, "bags of mail are delivered to legislators. It isn't hard to figure out that they are the result of Sunday morning's preaching.

"But legislators are getting wise to this 'clone mail,'" Shockman continued. "They realize that it's like the Nazis doing exactly what Hitler told them to do. As a result, individual letters and phone calls are beginning to have more clout."

Patricia Litka, worship coordinator for Modesto's Metropolitan Community Church, called the turnout at the forum "pretty good for Modesto."

She explained that the area is very conservative politically and religiously, and that as a result the gay and lesbian community is "pretty closeted."

Still, Stanislaus County is the home of two gay religious groups, a royal court, a social-political-educational organization, and a nascent gay/lesbian business organization.

Modesto's Metropolitan Community Church now has "the first openly-gay office in Modesto," downtown at 1115 K St. Litka is there from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, answering the phone [(209) 578-3694], counseling, and conducting the church's business.

Sunday worship services, at 10 a.m. in the community center auditorium at 800 E. Morris Ave., currently attract 30-35 worshippers. Litka also drives south to Merced every Sunday to conduct services at 5:30 p.m. The Merced congregation, which draws heavily from nearby Castle Air Force Base, fluctuates between 10 and 30 people.

According to Litka, the MCC attracts "a good cross-section of people," from various towns, occupations, and ages.

Modesto is also home to Celebration, a two-year-old gay and lesbian Catholic group that meets twice a month for Mass. Purposely not formally organized and unaffiliated with Dignity, Celebration maintains a low profile.

The Stanislaus Owl Empire, headed by Emperor IX Crackers, is also active in the community. Their next event is a Cinco de Mayo party, a "fun filled Latin evening" on Friday, May 6, from 7-10 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 4342 Dale Road.

The court sponsors a three-day celebration the second weekend in June. It begins with a barn dance and Mr., Miss, Ms. Cowboy/Cowgirl contest at 8 p.m. June 10 at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

The festivities continue on Saturday, June 11, with the Duke and Duchess Ball at 8 p.m. The ball will be held at Dazzles, a recently opened bar in what was the Persian Room of the Hotel Covell, at 1021 11th St. in downtown Modesto.

The weekend's final event is the all-day Pleasant Peasant Faire on Sunday, June 12, at Tuolumne River Regional Park. Billed as "Crackers' Salute to Summer," it features food, games, entertainment, t-shirts, cookbooks, and fund-raising booths sponsored by community organizations.

It may be an indication of the social and political climate of Stanislaus County that all the court's events prominently advertise "full security." For more information about the activities of the Owl Empire, write them at P.O. Box 6272, Modesto, CA 95355.

Also headquartered in Modesto, with members county-wide,is the Stanislaus Gay Alliance. SGA publishes an excellent monthly newsletter with information about local events, state and national political news, opinion and advice. The group sponsors potlucks and rap sessions monthly, as well as occasional dances and speakers. Their address is P.O. Box 5163, Modesto, CA 95352.

Soon Stanislaus County may see another organization—a gay and lesbian business association. "It's in the talking stages right now," Patricia Litka said. "People want to make absolutely sure that their names don't get out. But we have a good number of lesbian- and gay-owned businesses down here."

Modesto, a rapidly growing city with a tree-shaded central core of older homes surrounded by suburbs, is the county seat of Stanislaus County, a rich agricultural area where almonds, peaches, grapes, and dairies abound. Although it is about equidistant from San Francisco and Sacramento in mileage, it seems much further away in political consciousness.

Yet, the lesbian and gay community in the northern San Joaquin Valley is stirring and organizing, and will soon probably surprise not only its Middle American neighbors but itself as well.★

Judge Sends Killer To Vacaville For Observation

The 18-year-old killer of a gay Russian River Realtor was committed to the California Medical Facility in Vacaville April 22 for a 90-day observation period.

Sonoma County Superior Court Judge William Boone, who was to have sentenced Jeffrey Scott Long on that day, committed him to Vacaville because he wanted a determination of whether Long could be considered a serious threat to society.

Long, who admitted that he killed Guerneville Realtor Bud Kramer by smashing his head with an axe, was convicted of auto theft, burglary, and arson, but acquitted of murder. His successful defense claimed that he killed Kramer in self-defense after Kramer made a "homosexual advance" at him.

The acquittal of Long, who was convicted of arson because he set Kramer's house afire after killing him, inspired demonstrations by gay and non-gay citizens and friends of Kramer in Guerneville, Santa Rosa, and San Francisco. Long's maximum sentence could be eight years and four months.

The acquittal also prompted San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith to propose a new state law limiting the admissibility of evidence about the victim's sexual orientation. The law would be patterned after a court-tested restriction on using evidence about the previous sexual activities of female rape victims.★

RIP-OFFS & ROSES

Be Aware, Be Practical: How To Pick A Puppy

In our part of California, every pickup truck seems to come complete with factory-authorized dog. In New York City, there seems to be a dog in every block, towing along a reluctant owner. Pet food is a multi-billion dollar industry in the United States.

It seems that everyone in the country owns or is in the process of buying a pet. The attractions are obvious; a pet is always there for you, it never has headaches, and it doesn't ask embarrassing questions when you stay out too late.

On the other hand, it can't tell you when it's sick, it may require more care and grooming than you're willing to supply, and unlike most human lovers, it may use your favorite Oriental rug for a bathroom.

We're going to take a look at pets—specifically dogs— this column, since so many gay people seem to want them around the house. Everyone in this office has a dog, and we're hard pressed to name more than one or two friends without one; some of those people breed purebred types as a hobby. That's given us a perspective from which to offer some advice.

Probably the most important consideration in purchasing a dog is knowing the qualities in the breed that you require. Even if you're planning on going to the pound for a pooch, it's best to be aware of typical traits of certain types of dogs, so that you can look for one that will afford you the most pleasure with the least hardship.

Odd as it sounds, that's particularly necessary in the gay world. Snazzy-looking Afghans are popular purchases with gay men, we're told, but soon fade in attraction when the new owners become aware of the amount of grooming necessary to keep them looking lovely. Schnauzers are sturdy and loving, but their known devotion to one person and resultant value as a watchdog make things a bit sticky for anyone who plans to have many strangers in the house; some dogs just don't understand tricks, at least of that kind.

There is no ideal breed. Poodles have no doggy odor and don't shed, but have to be clipped and washed often; an extra expense that should be considered. Boxers drool, chihuahuas yip, sheepdogs shed, and terriers leave hair and odor around. Big dogs are glamorous and butch, but eat equally butch portions of food. Other breeds have medical problems associated with them: dachshunds commonly have back troubles, and hip dysplasia occurs frequently in German shepherds.

A combination of reading about types of dogs and consulting with friends who own similar ones can give you a good idea of what to expect. Also, note the behavior of the dogs you're interested in when you see them on the street. If you're a sedentary type, you won't be too enchanted with the hyperactivity of a Doberman, for example.

Once you've picked a specific breed, familiarize yourself with sources where you can obtain it. This is where the big rip-off comes in, an especially cruel one for prospective owner and pet. By all means, stay away from "puppy mills" and grand-size pet stores. Prices may be right, and it could be attractive to be able to see several different dogs at the same time, but the conditions in which these dogs are raised make them an unhappy source for a pet.

Many dogs, even of the most expensive breeds, are confined in cages for the duration of their breeding existence, and have never had any real human contact. Their pups are sold to big stores and pet chains. The result is an animal which may be so fearful that it never adjusts to human company, one that will always miss the security of its cage.

Unhappily, that can also be a factor in adopting a dog from a pound, which seems the most humane course. Much as you may like the mutt you see, find out how long it has been in its cage before you lose your heart. Reputable animal-rescue facilities will tell you as much of its history as they know.

The best source for a dog is a breeder that you can visit. Check your classified ads for the

breed you want, or consult a veterinarian for a nearby "dog farm." the vet will know who's treating the animals properly. Then, go to the recommended source, and check out not only the pup you want, but the conditions in which it was raised. Ask to see the parents of the pup, if possible; that will give you an idea of the potential personality of your animal. If the sire or dam is vicious or unfriendly, that's a fair indiction that the pup may be incompatible.

Ask about medical histories of the dog's family. That sounds silly, but it's important. Certain canine diseases are hereditary; if the breeder indicates that none exist, try to get a guarantee on paper when you buy the pup. If you're about to shell out a couple of hundred dollars, you don't want to face big bills from the vet in a few months.

Most important, find yourself a good veterinarian. You'll want to keep your pet free from diseases, and provide it with a regular series of inoculations. That will preserve your peace of mind in several ways. First, it prevents your own animal from getting sick, and second, should your dog bite anyone else, it can serve as proof that it cannot transmit rabies and avoid the possibility of a long empoundment.

Your responsibility doesn't end there. Obnoxious pets are just as hateful as obnoxious children, and you should train your animal to be social; unless of course, you're purchasing an attack dog for protection. Even in that case, if you plan to entertain, you must consider the comfort and ease of your guests—the invited ones.

Spend a few dollars on a good training book—Wodehouse, the PBS dog lady, has a great one—and save yourself some time and trouble in housebreaking and training your pet. Also, you'll have to remember that a new dog in a strange and lonely house may be bored and destructive. If you go away to work and leave it alone, consult the book about ways to keep it occupied and happy.

Then, there's love. The nifty thing about dogs is that they respond to you so trustfully and unquestioningly. You can say the most ridiculous things to them, and they never laugh. Give them attention and affection, and they pay you back many times over. Talk to your dog; as foolish as you may feel, you'll be teaching it the tones of your voice, and once it understands your "love" voice and your "correction" voice, a word will often be enough for an instant response.

If you have consumer problems or questions that you would like to share with Stonewall Features readers, write us at P.O. Box 222976, Carmel, Ca. 93922, and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. We'll be glad to help you. ★

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Wheelchair Jock Is Raising Funds For Play-offs In France

By DIANA COATS

Cathleen Cain, a lesbian player on the Davis-Sacramento Goldrush women's wheelchair basketball team, needs to raise $1500 by May 10 to pay for her trip to the International Women's Wheelchair Basketball Games in France.

Cathy is 22 years old and a senior at U.C. Davis. Next year she will enter the Masters of Social Work program at Sacramento State University. Cathy was disabled in a car accident 4 years ago and has since found much fulfillment participating in sports for disabled people.

This March, Cathy went to Champaign, Illinois, to participate in the National Women's Wheelchair Basketball Playoffs. There women's teams from all over the U.S. compete against each other for the title. From these teams an all-star team is selected to represent the United States at the International Women's Wheelchair Basketball Games. It is with a little burst of pride that I inform you that Cathy was selected to be on this all-star team.

The International games are to be held in Angers,France on May 12-18, 1983. The U.S. players will compete against women's teams from Sweden, Germany, Canada, Israel and France.

Now, the hard part. Cathy must raise $1500 in just three weeks in order to go to France and make sports history at these games. So, as her lover/agent I am asking 150 of you GAGs, (Good American Gays), to sponsor Cathy at $10 each.

Donations are tax deductable. Checks should be made payable and sent to: Davis-Sacramento Goldrush, 517 A Street, Davis, CA 95616. For further information, call Diana at 756-7976. ★

Arts Commission Seeks Art For New Bridge

The Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission is seeking an innovative public art solution for the Rush River Drive Bridge presently under construction in the Greenhaven area of Sacramento. Artists who are residents of Sacramento County may submit preliminary proposal ideas to the Arts Commission by 5 p.m., May 27.

A panel composed of two artists and an engineer (Bob Brady, sculptor; Pam Johnson, painter; Carl Schubert, engineer) will review the preliminary proposals and select three finalists, each of whom will be paid $250 to develop final proposals for the artwork.

The proposals will be judged according to the following criteria: artistic excellence and appropriateness to site. The artwork must conform to City building and safety codes and must be durable against vandalism. The artwork must be built to last 50 years and require minimum maintenance.

The artwork budget is $3,600.

The competition is being sponsored by the Art in Public Places Program of the City of Sacramento. The program is one of three programs administered by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, a City/County agency established in 1977 to foster support of the arts in Sacramento.

For more information and a detailed prospectus, contact the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 1221 J Street, Sacramento 95814; 449-5558. ★

BOOKS

New Book Shows Mom As Victim Of Son's Sins

"A Day In San Francisco" by Dorothy Bryant. Ata Books, 1928 Stuart St., Berkeley, 94703. Six dollars. 144 pages, softbound.
Reviewed by JOYCE BRIGHT

Several years ago I read *The Garden of Eros* by Dorothy Bryant. It was the story of a pregnant woman living in the Mendocino backwoods. She goes into labor while her husband is out. A storm rages outside the cabin. Essentially, then, this was the story of a woman delivering her own baby. It was well written, but I missed the point.

A Day In San Francisco is on the same strange order. Clara, a 50ish history professor from Mendocino, comes into town to visit her son, Frank, and to give a talk at the Old Wives's Tales bookstore. She arrives on the day of the Gay Freedom Day Parade, and she watches that. She talks with her son on the phone and learns that he has contracted hepatitis at the baths. She has lunch with an old friend whose lover has died from Kaposi's Sarcoma. The novel ends with mamma confronting son with the errors of his promiscuous life.

Carla's problem is not that her son is gay. She's too liberal for that. After all, she and Frank attended all the right demonstrations during the 60's and 70's. Carla heads a North Counties Alcohol Project. She is socially aware. Mamma's too hip to condemn homosexuality. She is only anguished because her son is wasting his talents and his life.

Unfortunately, this does not come across well. In truth, Clara's moral judgements stick out like a nun on rollerskates. Regarding her son's promiscuity Clara says finally: "If this is a community, it's as uniform and oppressive as the one I got out of when I left here. These men even look the way men did in the fifties. Freedom? God, that crazy woman on the street is right. It is a rebellion against God, against yourself. It's suicide."

True, this is a time when many gays are looking at their sexual activities and wondering if promiscuity is worth the possibility of disease. But I don't think many seriously think disease is an implicit consequence of sexuality. More to the point, AIDS is not a moral judgement visited by God on sexually active men. Clara, of course, has the right to be an anguished mother—but her moral judgements prevent a clear articulation of her pain. She comes across as a victim of her son's sins.

I recently saw "The Dan White Incident" in San Francisco. It was an excellent play that did a great job depicting the political climate of San Francisco. Likewise, Dorothy Bryant does a very fine job of setting the political and social history of the city.

But ultimately I wonder about the type of audience Dorothy Bryant intended for her book. I can't imagine Middle-American reading this book—it has too many liberal elements. At the same time, gays will not be happy with the moral judgements contained in this story.

As with the other Dorothy Bryant book I read, I've missed the point of *A Day In San Francisco.* ★

ITEMS

'The Velveteen Rabbit'?

By RICK VAN DYKE

It's now official: **Raley's** at 28th and L, perhaps the gayest supermarket in town, will close June 1. **Sutter Hospital** has taken over the site and wants to demolish the building by July 1. The clerks are advising folks to switch to the store at 4850 Freeport Blvd., but that's hardly in walking distance—a special hardship for all the elderly people in the Sutter's Fort neighborhood.

Steve Klein forwards an article from Publishers Weekly about paperbacks for summer reading. In it there's this quote by **Robert Wyatt,** editor-in-chief of Ballantine Books: "Last summer on Fire Island I watched this big hulk settle down by the sea with a copy of *The Velveteen Rabbit*. He loved it, read it for hours. You can never predict what people may want to read in the summer." No, indeed, but it sure doesn't take hours to read *The Velveteen Rabbit*, so what was that hulk doing?

Rick Van Dyke

Something for everyone Saturday, May 7, the most heavily scheduled day in a long time: the **Anthropological Conference on Homosexuality** at Sac State will be in its second day, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Forest Suite and Miwok Room of the University Union. The second **public forum on AIDS: Implications for Lifestyle,** sponsored by Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation and American Cancer Society, is in room 4023 of the Capitol, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There's a picnic for **Lesbians Involved in Parenting** in McKinley Park at 11 a.m. The **Valley Knights Motorcycle Club** Anniversary Party is at the Broadway Ltd., with field event starting at 11 a.m. The **River City Democratic Club** meets in the California Suite of the CSUS University Union at 2:30 p.m. An **AIDS fundraiser** is supposed to start at 5 p.m. Call 448-AIDS for information. The regular monthly potluck of **Our River City Family** is at Frank Lawler's at 7 p.m. Call Rob, 962-3083, or Paul, 447-1065, for directions. And the Lesbian/Gay People's Union is sponsoring a **Night of Women's Music** in the Redwood Room of the University Union at 8 p.m.

Another event to compete for your attention on May 7: the **Sacramento Peace Fair,** sponsored by the Sacramento Peace Center, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 2425 Sierra Blvd. It features food, music, arts, crafts, films, a raffle, and more. Admission is only $1 for adults and 50¢ for kids under 10.

Gay Youth Community News, published by the Gay Youth Community Coalition in the Bay Area, is seeking articles, events listings, art, poetry, and cartoons on topics of interest to young lesbians and gay men for its summer issue. They are also seeking advertising from businesses and organizations. Their deadline is May 20 and their address is P.O. Box 14412, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Co-chairs **Carole Migden** *and* **Marc Bliefield** *of the* **Lesbian/Gay Caucus of the California Democratic Party** sent a letter urging all gay and lesbian Democrats to help the effort to get **Federal funding for AIDS research.** California Representatives **Barbara Boxer** and **Henry Waxman** have asked all members of Congress to sign a letter to Secretary of Health and Human Services **Margaret Heckler,** calling for greatly expanded funding. They're also working on legislation appropriating $10 million to the CDC and some $20 million to the National Institutes for Health for AIDS research. Migden and Bliefield write, "If we act NOW we can help make a critical difference in federal policy—and help to save the lives of our people." They urge everyone to write or call their members of Congress to ask them to sign the letter to Heckler and co-sponsor the legislation. So do it!

"**Beers From Around the World**" is the theme of a gala beer tasting fund-raiser for the **Old Eagle Theatre** in the State Railroad Museum on Saturday, May 14, from 7 to 10 p.m. **Susan Gregory from** Channel 3 is honorary chair of the event and **Dr. Michael Lewis** from UCD **will give** a presentation on the fine art of brewing. Tasters will be treated to an array **of 31 beers** from Europe, Britain, Mexico, USA/Canada, and the Pacific. The **Fire Mountain Militia Band** will provide music for dancing and listening. Tickets are $10; **call 446-6761** for reservations.

It was nice to get the **first newsletter** from the **Silo** natural foods store. They now offer homemade breads **that you can** pick up on Saturday if you order by Thursday. And on May 18 at 7 p.m., **they're** sponsoring a **Rolfing** demonstration by **Ben Ohs,** a certified Rolfer. Stop by the **Silo** at 2411 J Street, or call 448-7456 to reserve bread or a seat at the Rolfing demo.

Congratulations to Sacramento's **All Mixed Up** and **SAGA II** bowling teams, who placed first and second in the April 24 San Francisco Bowling Tournament, a fund-raiser to help send **their** teams to the I.G.B.O. tourneys in Chicago over the Memorial Day weekend. The **All** Mixed Up team consisted of **Mike, Noreen, Robert, Jerry, and Dee.** On the SAGA II team were **Kathy, Mark, Norm, Chris, and Jane.** A Monday night bowling league will start in late May or early June. Watch for details.

Axel Herbon, owner of the **Power Plant,** received a letter from **Norm Frohwein,** office manager of the Sacramento **AIDS/KS Foundation,** thanking the Power Plant for the $318 raised at its AIDS benefit. In part, it said that "efforts of this nature will help us in our counseling programs for individuals with AIDS and our educational programs for the gay community."

Artist of the month at the **Blue Mango Cafe** is **Phil Gross,** whose ceramic wallhangings will be shown during May at that special eating and gathering place at 330 G Street in Davis. The Blue Mango also features live music Thursday through Sunday nights from 9:30 till midnight, with no cover charge. Give them a call at 756-2616 for the schedule of performers.

Feminist men will meet feminist women and hear the folk-jazz-blues of Gary Lapow at a pillow concert May 14. It's a benefit for the ERA and the Sacramento Men's Collective, sponsored by NOW and the SMC. The time: 8 p.m. The place: Sierra School Cafeteria. The price: $5-$10, sliding scale.

Sacramento's gay and lesbian **River City Democratic Club has** scheduled a get-acquainted-with-us event for 2 p.m. Sunday, May 22, at 5891 Camellia Way. The three candidates for Mayor of Sacramento—**Anne Rudin, Joe Serna,** and **Ross Relles**—have been invited, along with leaders of other local Democratic clubs. It's also a fund-raiser for RCDC, but your $5 is good for munchies and a drink.

"**Reunion**" is a new novel by San Francisco writer **N. A. Diaman.** It's a love story involving three men in the Castro district in the late 70's. The press release claims that "no other novel so well captures the spirit of contemporary gay San Francisco." Published by Persona Press, P.O. Box 14022, San Francisco 94114, it will be available in bookstores or from the publisher in June for $8.95.★

Judge Grants Child Visiting Rights To Lesbian 'Father'

Linda Jean Loftin, a lesbian fighting for the right to visit the four-year-old child she helped her former lover conceive through artificial insemination, was granted temporary visitation rights April 28 by Alameda County Superior Court Judge Demetrios Agretelis.

The child's mother, Mary Elizabeth Flournoy, whom Loftin married five years ago and has since separated from, opposed the request for visitation rights She claimed that Loftin has no parental rights since California does not legally recognize same-sex marriages.

Loftin is named on the birth certificate of Sparkle Cristel Loftin as the child's father. She is also Sparkle's natural aunt; her brother donated the sperm the two women used to inseminate Flournoy in their home after getting counselling at a local birth control clinic.

According to Loftin, she has been supporting the child financially, but has only been able to see her at Flournoy's "whim."

"That's my baby. That's my child," Loftin said. "I went through all the trips and pains any parent goes through."

Judge Agretelis sent the case to a family court counselor. The counselor will act as a mediator and make recommendations for visiting arrangements.

Another hearing was set for May 26, in case the mediation is not successful. At that time, the judge will determine if the case will go to trial.

Loftin's attorney said that no further legal action would be necessary if Flournoy accepted the judge's ruling. But, he said, "it appears that there will be a hearing. The two parties are not communicating."★

Lesbian/Gay Adventists Schedule Annual Kampmeeting For Second Week In August

Seventh-day Adventist Kinship, International, Inc., an organization of gay and lesbian Seventh-day Adventists, will hold its fourth annual "Kampmeeting" August 7-14. The site will be a wooded summer camp in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, according to Obed Vazquez, coordinator of Kampmeeting '83.

The week-long retreat will feature a variety of workshops, recreation, worship services and social activities.

"Kampmeeting is an incredible week of our lives that makes the rest of the year more bearable," Vazquez said. "It is a time of rejuvenation, a time of sharing and healing that can only be fully understood by others who know what it means to be gay and Christian in a conservative faith. It's a wonderful way for gays and lesbians to make new friends in a wholesome and non-threatening environment."

Kampmeeting participants include more than just the members of the worldwide organization. Some members bring their parents. And the group also invites a panel of Adventist pastors, educators, counselors and medical professionals.

"Some of the most outstanding evidence of our right to be gay and Christian has come from these heterosexual clergy who have conducted unbiased, exhaustive research in Old and New Testament scripture," said Dr. Ronald Lawson, an officer of SDA Kinship and liasion with the church's General Conference.

However, the church does not encourage its clergy to participate, and SDA Kinship is not officially recognized by the Adventist Church. "We may exist without the blessing of the church," commented President Robert Bouchard, "but we are no stranger to them."

Kinship chapters are active throughout the United States and in several foreign countries; its newsletter list exceeds 500 subscribers; SDA Kinship's speakers' bureau has been invited to a variety of classes at both public and Seventh-day Adventist colleges; and SDA Kinship provides publications and brochures for educational purposes.

In its six-year history, SDA Kinship has placed foremost emphasis on serving the gay Adventist community, but it is also a prime mover in working with church leaders, parents and interested Adventists in an attempt to dispell many of the stereotypes, misconceptions and fallacies plaguing homosexuals in the church.

"We have at least now reached the point where some Adventist pastors are not afraid to refer counselees to SDA Kinship, and they no longer consider being 'gay and Christian' to be a contradiction of terms," Bouchard said.★

Gov. Refuses Pride Week Proclamation

Governor George Deukmejian refused a request that he proclaim June 19-26 Lesbian/Gay Freedom Week. The request came from the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade committee of San Francisco, which has scheduled the annual parade for June 26.

According to parade co-chairs Linda Boyd and Konstantine Berlandt, "The tradition of this annual proclamation was begun in 1980 by Gov. Jerry Brown. While it is only a symbolic statement of the governor's awareness of gay and lesbian contributions to the state and our struggle for equal rights, to discontinue this tradition is to turn away from the pursuance of a just society and truly representative government."★

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CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 4
★ The STAR is published.
★ Lesbian/Gay Rap Group. Sacramento City College, room RS-721. Noon.

Thursday, May 5
★ Cinco de Mayo.
★ Volleyball for men and women. $2. Women's Gym, Sac City College. 7-11 p.m. Call Paul, 447-1065, for information.

Friday, May 6
★ Anthropological Conference on Homosexuality. Presentations, discussions, workshops. Registration fee $5. Forest Suite and Miwok Room, University Union, CSUS. 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
★ Laurie Brown & Rob McIntosh in concert. $4. La Semilla, 312 20th St. 8 p.m.
★ Cincc De Mayo Party sponsored by Stanislaus Owl Empire. Knights of Columbus Hall, 4342 Dale Rd., Modesto. 7-10 p.m.

Saturday, May 7
★ Anthropological Conference on Homosexuality. Presentations, discussions, workshops. Registration fee $5. Forest Suite and Miwok Room, University Union, CSUS. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
★ AIDS: Implications for Lifestyle. Public Forum II. Sponsored by Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation and American Cancer Society. State Capitol, room 4023. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
★ Sacramento Peace Fair sponsored by Sacramento Peace Center. Food, music, arts, crafts, raffle. $1/adults. 50¢/under 10. Unitarian Universalist Society, 2425 Sierra Blvd. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
★ Lesbians Involved in Parenting. Picnic. McKinley Park. 11 a.m. Call 456-3245 for information.
★ Valley Knights Motorcycle Club Anniversary Party. Broadway Ltd., 1946 Broadway. 11 a.m. (field events), 1 p.m. (party).
★ River City Democratic Club meeting. California Suite, University Union, CSUS. 2:30 p.m.
★ Our River City Family potluck. Call Rob, 962-3083, or Paul, 447-1065, for place. 7 p.m.
★ A Night of Women's Music. Sponsored by Lesbian/Gay People's Union. Redwood Room, University Union, CSUS. 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 8
★ Mother's Day.
★ Orthodox Easter.
★ Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th Street. 454-4762. 11 a.m.
★ Ernie Brown's "Mother of the Year" Award. Barbeque chicken & ribs, raffle, flea market, entertainment. Proceeds to AIDS/KS Foundation. Mercantile Saloon. 1 p.m.
★ Dignity Mass/meeting. St. Francis Church, 26th & K St. 3 p.m.
★ Gay Softball: Fighting Irish vs. Pilsner, in San Francisco. Call 448-2000 for time and place.
★ Womyn's Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. Potluck afterwards. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.

Monday, May 9
★ Grupo Zero performs "La Cita." $4. La Semilla, 312 20th St. 7:30 p.m.
★ River City Business Association. General meeting open to the public. Incredible Edible. 8 p.m.
★ Our River City Family council. 8 p.m. Call Paul, 447-1065, for place.

Tuesday, May 10
★ Advocates for Lesbian and Gay State Employees. Incredible Edible. 6 p.m.
★ Capital City Squares. The Parking Lot. 7 p.m. Call 786-2708 for more information.

Wednesday, May 11
★ Deadline for The STAR
★ Lesbian/Gay Rap Group. Sacramento City College, room RS-721. Noon.
★ Sacramento Men's Collective open rap. La Semilla. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.

Thursday, May 12
★ Volleyball for men and women. $2. Women's Gym, Sac City College. 7-11 p.m. Call Paul for information, 447-1065.

Friday, May 13
★ The Plutonium Players present "An Evening of Consciousness Lowering with Ladies Against Women." $4. La Semilla, 312 20th St. 8 p.m.
★ "Peace Is Alive: A Celebration for Healing the Earth." Vietnam Veterans Fair. Entertainment, speakers, booths & exhibits, workshops, seminars, networking. San Francisco Civic Auditorium. 2 p.m.-midnight.

Saturday, May 14
★ SDA Kinship Potluck. 455-8940 for information.
★ 20th Annual Festival of the Arts sponsored by Sacramento Regional Arts Council. Art, crafts, music, dancing, theatre, jugglers, etc. Food & drink. Free admission. In park across from Crocker Art Museum. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
★ Gary Lapow in a pillow concert benefit for the ERA & Sacramento Men's Collective, sponsored by Sacramento N.O.W. & the Sacramento Men's Collective. Folk, jazz & blues singer-guitar player. Dancing & socializing after the concert. $5-$10 sliding scale. Bring a pillow to sit on. Sierra School Cafeteria, 2791 24th St. 8 p.m. For more info, call 443-3470.
★ Benefit Beer Tasting for the Old Eagle Theatre. $10. Call 446-6761 for reservations. State Railroad Museum, Old Sacramento. 7-10 p.m.
★ "Peace Is Alive: A Celebration for Healing the Earth." Vietnam Veterans Fair. Entertainment, speakers, booths & exhibits, workshops, seminars, networking. San Francisco Civic Auditorium. Noon-midnight.

Sunday, May 15
★ Sacramento Lesbian Photographers Guild Spring Salon. $1. Refreshments, entertainment, sales. 1825 Beverly Way. 3-7 p.m.
★ Gay Softball: Fighting Irish vs. Stables, in San Francisco. Call 448-2000 for time and place.
★ Women In Dignity potluck. Call Alberta, 443-8084 (days) for time and place.
★ Sacramento Men's Collective Men-only Potluck. 6 p.m. Call 441-1959 for info.
★ 20th Annual Festival of the Arts sponsored by Sacramento Regional Arts Council. Art, crafts, music, dancing, theatre, jugglers, etc. Food & drink. Free admission. In park across from Crocker Art Museum. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Monday, May 16
★ Our Community United board meeting. Call 443-5596 for info. 1813 K St. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 17
★ Capital City Squares. The Parking Lot. 7 p.m. Call 786-2708 for more information.
★ Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Rap Group. Facilitated by Valerie Winn and Will Green. Geneva Room, Fremont Presbyterian Church, H St. at Carlson Drive. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 18
★ The STAR is published.
★ Lesbian/Gay Rap Group. Sacramento City College, room RS-721. Noon.
★ Rolfing slide show & presentation. Call 448-7456 to reserve space. Silo Natural Foods, 2411 J St. 7-8:30 p.m.
★ Sacramento Men's Collective business meeting. LaSemilla, 312 20th St. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.

Thursday, May 19
★ Volleyball for men and women. $2. Women's Gym, Sac City College. 7-11 p.m. Call Paul for information, 447-1065.

Friday, May 20

Saturday, May 21
AB1 Seminar sponsored by Assemblyman Art Agnos. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Room 4202, State Capitol. Register in advance: Assemblyman Art Agnos, 1064 State Building, 350 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94102.

Sunday, May 22
★ Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th Street. 454-4762. 11 a.m.
★ Womyn's Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. Potluck afterwards. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.
★ River City Democratic Club Get-Acquainted/Fund-raiser. Mayoral candidates and leaders of other Democratic clubs invited. $5. 5891 Camellia Ave. 2 p.m.
★ The Sacramento Star staff meeting. All people interested in working on The Star are invited to attend. Call James, 442-8683, or Tim, 454-0106, for more information.

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Apartments, houses for rent. 448-1999.

LEGAL SERVICES

Call Dorothy Thomson, Attorney, for help with lesbian/gay problems, general law. 442-4642.

Law offices of Judith Simms. 442-8502. 1725 Capitol Ave.

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THEATRE

Eleanor McClatchy Performing Arts Center. 1419 H St. Ticket info 441-6991.

Showcase Cinema. 412 L Street. 446-4449.

Tower Theatre. 16th & Broadway. 443-1982.

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Texas Professor Seeks Gay Files

FBI Waffles On Freedom Of Information Requests

By PATRICK FRANKLIN

April 27 of this year marked the 30th anniversary of President Eisenhower's executive order banning homosexuals from all government positions. In a more freewheeling age, it's easy to forget the hysteria of the 50's, when a slip of the lip could sink a career and gays, lesbians, and people who were merely "suspicious" lost their jobs and reputations.

Dr. Dan Siminoski, political scientist at Texas Tech University, hasn't forgotten, though. What he also remembers is the surveillance that was undertaken by the FBI on domestic groups regarded as "subversive" (a common denunciation of gay activists) and that may continue now.

Siminoski filed a request on October 20, 1982, for all records held by the FBI on 13 specific gay movement groups and any others affecting the gay and lesbian movement as well. Using the Freedom of Information Act as a lever, the search for records included not only the main FBI files, but those at seven field offices of the agency.

Generally, the cost of such a request is borne by the applicant. However, a "fee waiver" is available for applications that result in disclosures which are "in the public interest." On January 3 of this year, Siminoski's request was denied by the FBI, claiming that the size of the public to be benefitted was too small, and his ability to get the information to that public too limited.

Obviously, the FBI is waffling. Millions of gay people are affected by the existence of government prying, and early indications show clearly that most gay activist groups have generated government records. Siminoski has published extensively, writing both for the gay press and for major academic conferences.

Dr. Siminoski filed an immediate appeal with the Justice Department, and plans to carry the case further, should that be denied. His case is considered a strong one by attorneys and experts in Freedom of Information Act issues. Whatever the result, the case promises tangible benefits to the gay community; if successful, at least 2000 pages of documents (the number the FBI admits having) will be turned over for public scrutiny.

The case is valuable as a test of gay civil rights, and an opportunity for media coverage and public education. It opens many doors between gay and non-gay supporters of personal freedom and open government.

Siminoski's attorneys estimate that hi legal fees will run from $10,000 to $20,000, with associated travel, telephone and public relations costs. The gay and lesbian community has a great deal at stake in his work, and we strongly urge contributions to Siminoski so that he can continue to prepare and pursue a case that affects us all.

Any contributions are **not** tax-deductible, since the government does not regard this as in the public interest. You can mark the anniversary of the Presidential Decree of Shame by sending financial support to: Freedom of Information Defense Fund, c/o Dr. Dan Siminoski, Department of Political Science, Texas Tech University, P.O. Box 4290, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

Dan can be called for more information, or to arrange speaking engagements at (806) 763-3121. ★

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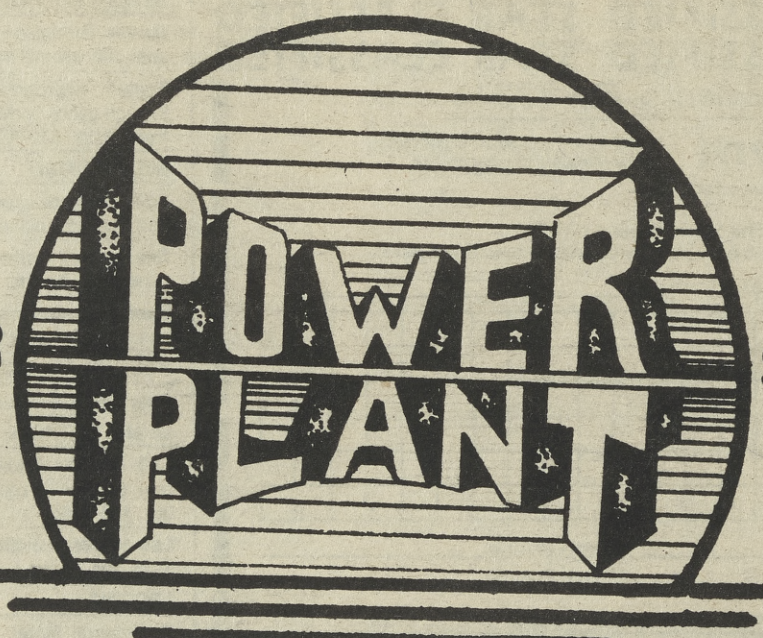

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